

they do not think it advisable to take any further action in reference thereto.

#### INSPECTOR WEIGHTS AND MEASURES—PORT ARTHUR.

Mr. MILLS (for Mr. Taylor) asked :

Who has been appointed to the position of assistant inspector of weights and measures at Port Arthur, in place of W. W. Russell, deceased?

The CONTROLLER OF INLAND REVENUE (Sir Henri Joly de Lotbinière). No permanent appointment has been made. The duties are being performed, temporarily, by Mr. G. W. Francis.

#### TARIFF INQUIRY—THE EVIDENCE.

Mr. QUINN (for Mr. Monk) asked :

Is it the intention of the Government to cause a translation to be made into the French language, of the evidence and proceedings of the Tariff Inquiry Commission, in order to place the same within reach of French Canadians interested in the said inquiry?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). The tariff inquiry having been publicly conducted, the proceedings were somewhat extensively published in the newspapers of the day, and the Government have not thought that any further publication of them is necessary.

Mr. FOSTER. Might I ask my hon. friend (Mr. Fielding) another question in connection with that?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Certainly.

Mr. FOSTER. Part of these investigations were not publicly conducted, as I understood. If any persons had objected to publicity they were allowed to make their communications privately; will that part of the commissioner's investigation be brought down?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. No, Mr. Speaker. If the House deems it necessary, and I hope it will not, to have the whole matter printed, we would be obliged of necessity to withhold that portion which was given to us confidentially.

#### DUTY ON TIMOTHY SEED.

Mr. BAZINET asked :

1. Whether it is the intention of the Government to impose a duty of 50 cents per bushel, or any other specific duty, in addition to a duty of 15 cents per bushel ad valorem, on timothy seed imported into Canada?

2. Is it also the intention of the Government to impose a duty of 2 cents per pound and 20 per cent ad valorem, or any other duty, on clover seed imported into Canada?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). It is not deemed expedient to make any statement at present respecting the duties mentioned.

#### POSTMASTER—AYLMER WEST.

Mr. INGRAM asked :

Upon what date was David N. Price appointed postmaster of Aylmer West? What date was he dismissed? Was he fully qualified for the position? Did he perform his duty to the satisfaction of the department, and if so, for what reason was he dismissed?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mulock). A vacancy at the Aylmer West post office occurred on the 20th of June, 1895, by the death of the then postmaster. The office was kept vacant for more than one year and after the defeat of the late Government, but before their resignation Mr. D. H. Price was appointed postmaster. He was promptly notified, to wit, on the 29th July, 1896, by the new Government that his appointment would be cancelled. This was done on the 17th of March, 1897, by the appointment of Mr. Ashbaugh as postmaster. The reason for the cancellation of Mr. Price's appointment was that inasmuch as the late Government had kept the office vacant for more than one year there was no urgency in its being filled up by the defeated Government before their resignation, and, therefore, their act in appointing Mr. Price was regarded as one that could not be assented to. No complaint has been made as to the manner in which Mr. Price discharged the duties of the office.

#### SMUGGLING AT HERSCHEL ISLAND.

Mr. DAVIS asked :

Is the Department of Customs aware that smuggling is being carried on by the crews of American whalers from Herschel Island into Mackenzie River Basin?

The CONTROLLER OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). It was reported to the department in December, 1895, that illegal trade was being conducted by United States whalers at the mouth of the Mackenzie River. On 5th March, 1896, the department received a letter alleging that smuggling was going on at Herschel Island.

#### HUDSON BAY CUSTOMS PORTS.

Mr. DAVIS asked :

1. Is the Department of Customs aware that goods are being brought in at the ports of York Factory, Moose Factory and Churchill?

2. Has the Government any collectors of customs at these ports?

3. And if not, by whom is the duty collected?

The CONTROLLER OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). 1. The Department of Customs is aware that goods are being brought in at the outports of York Factory and Moose Factory, but not at Churchill; there is no customs office at Churchill. 2. Customs officers are stationed at York Factory and Moose Factory, but not at Churchill. 3. Goods imported by residents of Churchill